

ness and more of Christ, is the supreme need of the pew. Let the minister be true to his high calling in proclaiming the unadulterated Gospel of Jesus, and let the pew accept and practice its, heaven-born principles, and the *two great needs of the day are fully met.*

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF 1896.

Permit us to call attention to the fact that the time for the National Conference of 1896, is but little more than four months in the future. The committee should at once make arrangements for R. R. rates, and also announce an outline or plan of work for the conference. Brother J. A. Miller has been busy corresponding with other members of the Executive Committee. We suggest that they co-operate with him and promptly reply to any inquiries sent them by Brother Miller. All the members heard from have expressed a preference for Ashland as the place to hold the conference. The *time* has not yet been fixed and it is important that every member of the committee should reply at once to Brother Miller's inquiry as to the time of holding the conference. R. R. rates cannot be secured until the time is fixed. It may be early to call attention to the matter, but we *do* hope that conference work this year may not have to be rushed through, because delegates must return home. Congregations should grant pastors a "Sabbath off," without financial loss, and they should come to the conference to *stay* until the work is done. Important questions come up for discussion, that require deliberation, and must not be hurried.

STATE CONFERENCES.

Already the time and place for two of the State Conferences of 1896, have been fixed. The Maryland and Virginia Conference meets at Maurertown, Va., May 19. The Pennsylvania Conference meets at Elk Lick, in the fall. The churches in Ohio will remember that according to the action of last Conference, the time and place of this year's Conference was made conditional. If the National Conference meets anywhere in Ohio, the State Conference is to meet at the same time and place. As a member of the executive committee, we would now like to hear from every minister in the state in reference to the matter. When shall our State Conference be held?

Read our EXTRAORDINARY OFFER.

THOUGHTS FOR PREACHERS.

The pulpit needs preaching as well as the pew. But who is to preach to the ministry? Every Sabbath the minister has opportunity to talk *to* and *at* his people, but who shall preach to and at him? Does he not need it? He tells his people of their faults, their duties and obligations, and points them to the living Savior. But has he no faults, no duties, no obligations? He is supposed to know them, but it will not be out of place to emphasize some things which, it will be well for ministers to think about. The following items from the *Religious Telescope*, the to the point and we commend them to are thoughtful consideration of every minister in the Brethren church:

The preacher who would have the common people hear him gladly must talk directly to them and speak so plainly that they can easily understand him. "Big words" and "eloquence," so-called, will not hold their attention or feed their souls.

Natural gifts and cultured graces, eloquence, fluent descriptive powers of speech, may draw crowds to hear what a preacher has to say and how he says it; but souls converted to God under his ministry are the unmistakable seals to the effectiveness of his ministry—the sure evidences that God has called him to go forth and preach the glad tidings of salvation.

The great need of the pulpit to-day is a good supply of calm, consecrated, intelligent, clear headed, well-posted men, who can neither be bought nor sold. Not merely men who can rant and roar, or who can and do preach eloquent sermons to tickle the masses, but men who can and do tell the people clearly and forcibly what the teaching of the Word of God is, and apply it to the times in which we live.

Preachers who desire this office of the ministry to support them must see to it that they first truly support the office of the ministry. This sacred office would stand much higher in the estimation of the world to-day than it does had it been properly supported by all who have assumed its high and holy functions. But instead, many, like Judas Iscariot, have brought reproach upon the calling by falling into gross sins and "hurtful and deceitful lusts which drown men in perdition." Hence, there is all the more need to-day for every preacher to support the office of the ministry with a godly walk and a chaste conversation.

Personal Mention.

Brother H. M. Oberholtzer preached at Buckeye City, Sabbath morning and evening.

Brother I. D. Bowman reports one more baptism in the Philadelphia congregation.

Brother W. H. Miller very ably filled the pulpit in the College Chapel, Sabbath evening, April 12.

Under date of April 13, Brother Gillin writes: "Two came to Christ at yesterday's service at Enon. Four now ready for baptism. Hope more to follow soon."

Brother J. D. McFaden will conduct a department in the EVANGELIST known as "Tract Department," of which he is manager and editor. The first article will appear next week.

Sister Keim acknowledges, with thanks, the receipt of a very nice, serviceable comforter, a donation to Ashland College Boarding Hall by Katie Shively and Cora Skinner, of Gratis, Ohio.

The two papers, under K. C. department, by W. H. Miller and H. M. Oberholtzer, were read at a special K. C. service, March 8, when the subject for discussion was the "Gospel in the Heart."

BIBLE CONFERENCE.

A Conference for the study of the Bible will be held at Ashland, Ohio, beginning June 10, and continuing for ten days. Ministers, Sunday-school workers, and all church workers will here have an opportunity for careful study at the least expense. No tuition will be charged.

Full program will be announced in a short time. If you are interested, address

J. M. BOWMAN,
Glenford, O.

or J. A. MILLER, Ashland, O.

FROM WAYNE, KAN.

I visited Wayne, Kan., and held three services. Had large crowds and fine interest. There is work to be done here, but after it is done, who will care for it? Should a mother throw her child from her, should the church hold a revival, form a church and then let it alone? What think you? Brother Weimer and family are interested in the cause, and like to see it move. The two daughters are members of Carleton church. Sister Florence is a fine crayon artist, and sister Alice is closing up a post-graduate course in shorthand. She is a fine business lady, and if you need help in this line write her. I hope to renew my acquaintance with Wayne at some time in the future. In the mean time I commend them to God and his word which is able to build them up.

JOHN DUKE MCFADEN.